

Claims

1. A method of user notification in a portable communication device, said device comprising control software including a calendar-type application, said 5 calendar-type application being capable of managing notification messages, said messages having associated with them at least an item of notification content and a time of notification, said method comprising the steps of:
 - 10 - deciding to notify a user, based at least in part on a comparison between said time of notification and current time,
 - obtaining an audio signal based on said item of notification content, and
 - 15 - outputting said audio signal through a speaker of said portable communication device.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said notification content comprises text.
3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of 20 obtaining an audio signal entails obtaining a synthesized speech signal, said speech signal being based at least in part on a speech-synthesized version of said notification text, and further comprising the step of:
 - 25 - converting said synthesized speech signal into said audio signal.
4. The method according to claim 1, wherein said notification content comprises a recorded sound signal.
5. A portable communication device, said device comprising control software including a calendar-type 30 application, said calendar-type application being capable

of managing notification messages, said messages having associated with them at least an item of notification content and a time of notification, said device comprising:

- 5 - means for deciding to notify a user, based at least in part on a comparison between said time of notification and current time,
- means for obtaining an audio signal based on said item of notification content, and
- 10 - means for outputting said audio signal through a speaker of said portable communication device.

6. The device according to claim 5, wherein said notification content comprises text.

- 15 7. The device according to claim 6, wherein the means for obtaining an audio signal comprises means for obtaining a synthesized speech signal, said speech signal being based at least in part on a speech-synthesized version of said notification text, and further comprising:

- 20 - means for converting said synthesized speech signal into said audio signal.

8. The device according to claim 5, wherein said notification content comprises a recorded sound signal.

- 25 9. Computer readable medium on which is stored computer readable software instructions capable of performing a method according to any one of claims 1 to 4.

10. Computer readable signal comprising computer readable software instructions capable of performing a method according to any one of claims 1 to 4.